BRYAN BUILDING SAFETY NOTES

Volume 2, Issue 1 January 2009

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Home Safety Tips for a Safe and Healthy Winter

Heating equipment, especially portable and space heaters, fireplaces and wood stoves, require careful use and proper maintenance. Together, Lowe's and the Home Safety Council offer the following tips to help families prevent fire- and burn-related injuries during the winter months.

Portable Space Heaters





- Purchase electric space heaters that bear the mark of an independent testing laboratory, such as UL, ETL, CSA, etc.
- Place space heaters at least three feet away from anything that can burn - including furniture, people, pets and window treatments.
- Turn off space heaters before leaving a room or going to sleep.

- Supervise children and pets at all times when a portable space heater is in use.
- Use kerosene heaters only where permitted by law. Use the recommended grade kerosene and never use an alternative fuel. Kerosene heaters must be fueled outside.
- Never use space heaters to dry clothing or blankets.

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Reminder! Post Recordkeeping Forms

Employers subject to OSHA recordkeeping must post the OSHA Form 300A beginning February 1, in a common area where notices are typically displayed. The form must remain up through April 30.

Form 300A is the summary of all job-related injuries and illnesses that occurred in 2008 and were entered on the 300 log. If there were no recordables in 2008, the form must be posted with zeros on the total line.

Also required is information about annual average number of employees and total hours worked, and all summaries must be certified by a company executive.

OSHA Form 300A is available to *Safety.BLR.com* subscribers in the following formats: PDF or Excel.

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Fireplaces and Wood Stoves







- Burn only seasoned hardwood not trash, cardboard boxes, or Christmas trees because these items burn unevenly, may contain toxins, and increase the risk of uncontrolled fires.
- Have a professional chimney sweep inspect chimneys annually for cracks, blockages and leaks and have them cleaned and repaired as needed.
- Keep all persons, pets and flammable objects, including kindling, bedding, clothing, at least three feet away from fireplaces and wood stoves.
- Open flues before fireplaces are used.
- Use sturdy screens or doors to keep embers inside fireplaces.
- Install at least one smoke alarm on every level of your home and inside or near sleeping areas.



Carbon Monoxide (CO) Poisoning Precautions:





Carbon monoxide is commonly known as "the silent killer." Because it is colorless, odorless, and tasteless, none of your senses can detect it. CO claims the lives of nearly 300 people in their homes each year according to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC). CO is a potentially deadly gas that is produced by fuel-burning heating equipment, such as furnaces, wood stoves, fireplaces, and kerosene heaters. Follow these guidelines to help keep your family safer.

- Install at least one CO alarm near sleeping areas.
- Have a trained professional inspect, clean and tune-up your home's central heating system and repair leaks or other problems; fireplaces and woodstoves should also be inspected each year and cleaned or repaired as needed.
- Keep gas appliances properly adjusted and serviced.
- Never use an oven or range to heat your home.
- Never use a gas or charcoal grill inside your home or in a closed garage.
- Portable electric generators must be used outside only. Never use them indoors, in a garage or in any confined area that can allow CO to collect. Follow usage directions closely.

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Power Outage Precautions: Lighting Sources and Perishable Food







- Stock up on batteries, flashlights, portable radios, canned foods, manual can openers, bottled water and blankets.
- Use flashlights instead of candles to avoid a possible fire hazard.
- Run water at a trickle to help prevent pipes from freezing and bursting if outside temperatures are below freezing for an extended period of time and your home has no heat.
- Store perishable food outside in the snow or in an unheated outside building if power goes out.



"There's still some work left in this one. Get him another pot of coffee."

Ski Safety

The following information has been provided by the National Ski Areas Association as a code of conduct for skiers and snowboarders for the enjoyment and safety of all people on the Hills. KNOW THE CODE AND PRACTICE IT.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITY CODE

- 1. Ski under control and in such a manner that you can stop or avoid other skiers or objects. Excessive speed is dangerous!
- 2. People ahead of you have the right of way. It is your responsibility to avoid them.
- 3. You must not stop where you obstruct a trail or are not visible from above.
- 4. When entering or merging onto a trail or starting downhill, yield to others.
- 5. All skiers shall use devices to prevent runaway skis.
- 6. Observe all posted signs and warnings. Keep off closed trails and out of closed areas.
- 7. Prior to using any lift, you must have the knowledge and ability to load, ride and unload safely.

Risk Management
Safety Coordinators Meeting
Tuesday, February 17, 2009
201 S. Roop Street, Carson City
9:00—11:00 a.m.